

Remarks:

1. Objections and Rejections.

Claims 1 and 4-8 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,879,169 to Wu. Nevertheless, the Examiner indicates that claims 2 and 3 contain allowable subject matter and that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of their base claim, claim 1, and any intervening claim. Applicant respectfully traverses.

2. Anticipation Rejections.

As noted above, claims 1 and 4-8 stand rejected as allegedly anticipated by Wu. “A claim is anticipated if and only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” MPEP 2131. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Applicant is amending claim 1 to include the limitations of allowable claim 2 and is amending claim 3 to depend from amended claim 1. Thus, Applicant maintains that claims 1 and 3 now are allowable. Further, claims 4-8 are dependent directly from amended claim 1. Therefore, Applicant maintains that the anticipation rejections of claims 4-8 now are moot. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the anticipation rejections of claims 1 and 4-8 based on Wu and allow claims 1 and 3-8.

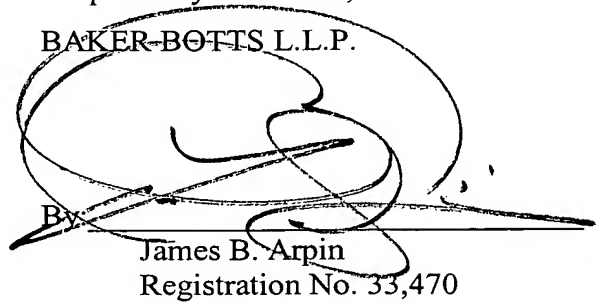
Conclusion:

Applicant respectfully submits that this application, as amended, is in condition for allowance, and such disposition is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes

that an interview with Applicant's representatives, either in person or by telephone, would expedite prosecution of this application, we would welcome such an opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER-BOTTS L.L.P.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'James B. Arpin', is written over the text 'BAKER-BOTTS L.L.P.' and the 'By' line.

By

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